

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

Order of Worship

10:00 a.m.

(* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Melody” J. Brahms

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Amazing Grace” (“My Chains Are Gone”)

*CALL TO WORSHIP Exodus 15:2, 18 (ed.)

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation;

People: *this is my God to whom belongs glory and praise!*

ALL: *The Lord will reign forever and ever.*

*HYMN #66 “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” Lauda Anima

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*unison*) Richard Allen, African Methodist Episcopal Bishop, 19th cent.

We believe, O Lord, that you have not abandoned us to the dim light of our own reason to conduct us to happiness, but that you have revealed in Holy Scriptures whatever is necessary for us to believe and practice. How noble and excellent are the precepts, how sublime and enlightening the truth, how persuasive and strong the motives, how powerful the assistance of your holy religion. Our delight shall be in your statutes, and we will not forget your Word. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We’re sorry, Lord. Not the “oops” kind of sorry when we bump a neighbor in the check-out line. But deep-down sorry: the kind of regret that wakes us up at night because we know we messed up. Maybe not today. But some day—past, present or future—we’re sorry, Lord. So help us to be sorry enough to quit, with your help, whatever it is that we did wrong, or failed to do right. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE PSALTER Psalm 14:1-7 Hymnal p.746

THE EPISTLE I Timothy 1:12-17 Bible p.1080

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN #400 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Nettleton

*THE GOSPEL Luke 15:1-10 Bible p.952

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON “Who’d You Invite to the Rally?” Dr. Bodt

A LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR 9/11

We remember today the 15th anniversary of the terror attacks upon the United States. Let us pray to the Lord; *Lord, hear our prayer.*

We recall our disbelief, horror, and anger at those who hijacked planes and hijacked a religion. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

We recall the 2,996 people who died and the more than 6,000 injured at the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Virginia and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

We recall the heroism of firefighters, police officers, other first responders and civilians who rescued and kept safe tens of thousands of survivors. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

We recall the nations that mourned with us and came to our aid. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

O Lord, may our remembrance galvanize us to action. *Help us, good Lord.*

To act with patience and love in a post-9/11 world: *Help us, good Lord.*

To act with compassion toward the widow, the widower and the orphan: *Help us, good Lord.*

To act to relieve the suffering of all victims of war and terrorism: *Help us, good Lord.*

To pray for the enemy as well as for the ally: *Help us, good Lord.*

God of all nations, teach us to pray and work for peace and justice. Help us to be the change we want to see in the world. Bring your Holy Spirit anew on troubled and anxious hearts, that we may again declare that “nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Amen.

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: *Hear our prayer.*

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

*THE PEACE

L: May the peace of the Lord be always with you. P: *And also with you.*
(*Greet one another with signs of Christ’s peace.*)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Shepherd Me, O God” arr. by M. Hayes
(*The Adult Choir*)

*Presentation: “Bless Thou the Gifts” Hymnal #587

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #733

“Marching to Zion”

Marching to Zion

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Shalom to You”

Hymnal #666

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

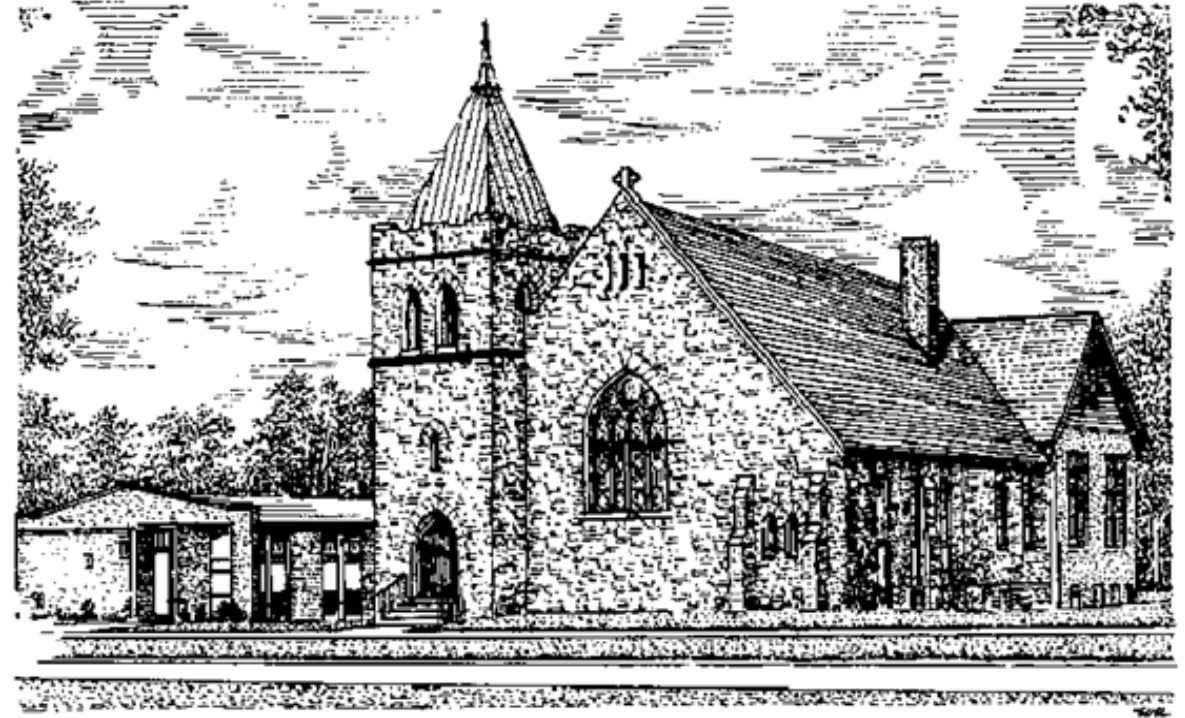
*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

*POSTLUDE “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

L. Smith

(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

*Whoever you are, wherever you are
on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.*

RALLY DAY
September 11, 2016

~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, September 11</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School-Wesley Center</i>
RALLY SUNDAY	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship returns to 10:00 a.m. -Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time – Ice Cream Social - Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, September 12</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership & Evangelism meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 13</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>United Methodist Women Meeting – Dodd Hall – Potluck & World Thank Offering</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 14</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“Lift Us Up” meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 15</i>		<i>BEACON Information Due</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall Alcove</i>
<i>Saturday, September 17</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Relay For Life Kickoff – Jonathan Law High School</i>
<i>Sunday, September 18</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School-Wesley Center</i>
	<i>9:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Informal hymn singing - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship -Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time and reception for Dani Levine - Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Blood Pressure Screenings – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>MYF Annual Kick-off picnic-Bettencourt’s home, 144 Timber Trail. RSVP Dawn Bettencourt 203-876-1123</i>
<i>Monday, September 19</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Historical Society meeting –Dodd Hall – Marcia Winter contact</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 20</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Club 80 Luncheon – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Confirmation class – Egan room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Bible Study-Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 21</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Adult Bible Study-Gunn Library</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 22</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>MTMUMC Community Supper – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Taize Worship Service – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Worship Committee meeting – Gunn Library</i>

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973

Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Kelly O’Hara & Leigh Bak	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Sexton	Nelson V. Brown	Outreach Pastor	Danielle Levine
Child Care Coordinator	Laura A. Brennan	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
		Theologian-in-Residence	The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett

***Grace Notes
September 11, 2016***

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Rally Day! With public school in session, Sunday School also resumes and, with it, the return of many from summer travel and rest. We are glad you are here and hope that you continue to find refreshment and challenge in this spiritual community.

We solemnly remember the 15th anniversary of the September 11th, 2001 attacks on the United States. May our memories move us to greater acts of love and kindness in Christ.

The Nominating Committee began its work in late July and is making good progress toward recommended officers and committees for election at Church Conference on Sunday, October 30th. Please hold that date. If you want to serve Christ through the Church, please speak with me or any member of the Nominating Committee. These names and telephones are on pg. 4 of the Sept. “Beacon,” copies of which are in the rear of the sanctuary.

We are pleased to announce the hiring of Laura A. Brennan as our new Child Care Coordinator and Mr. Nelson V. Brown as our Sexton. Mr. Brown began last Tuesday and Ms. Brennan begins today. Ms. Brennan is a paraprofessional in the Milford school system with a B.A. from Southern CT State. She is a Milford resident and well-known to several of our families. Mr. Brown is a graduate of Central High School, Bridgeport and a resident of that city. For 22 years he was at the Watermark, a senior residence facility in Bridgeport. We plan a formal welcome for both in the fall. Nelson succeeds Bruce Rumford who retired on August 27. Speaking of Bruce - please see the notice in this issue concerning his farewell reception on October 2 and the opportunity to contribute toward a “purse.”

Yes, as someone said to me this week “there’s lots going on.” Indeed! May it all be for the glory of God.

*Sincerely yours in Christ,
Pastor Brian Bodt*

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Nick Bettencourt

Liturgist – Amanda Repetsky

Acolytes – Carolyn Hollyday and Stefano Cono

Greeters – Phoebe and Jim Repetsky

Cross bearer – Lillia Downing

Bible bearer - Mary Repetsky

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Reverend Bodt and Amanda Repetsky.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are dedicated to all affected by the September 11, 2001 attacks, given by the Meszaros family; and in memory of Elmore Lumis on the 36th anniversary of his death on September 10, given by Carol and Bob Sattler.

A MISSION CROSS has been placed and a donation made to UMARMY in honor of Beth O'Brien's birthday today.

TO ASSIST YOU IN WORSHIP, see our ushers for:

- Large print Bibles, hymnals and bulletins
- Hearing Assist Devices
- Children's bulletins for ages 3 – 6 and 7 – 12

CHILD CARE for children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, the building next door. You may also hear the service in Dodd hall should your child become restless. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary; the child care in Wesley Center is not staffed to provide for older children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.

PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS using the "Blue Sheets" in the attendance pads in each pew; or obtain one from an usher. **Please return them completed to an usher or to the center aisle where the ushers will collect them on the opening hymn.** Our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. **You are also invited to speak your concerns when we pray.** Please obtain others' permission to share their concerns. Prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. **Please also consider joining our Yahoo e-communication group** (which was created for prayer concerns) to offer immediate posting of intercessory prayer requests. To sign up, contact the church office.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992). The Prayer of Confession and Litany of Remembrance for 9/11 was written by Pastor Brian Bodt. The "tens of thousands saved" refer to the 83% of people in the North Tower and 91% of people in the South Tower who were saved.

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God's presence today. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" name tag to help us greet you. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is in the rear of the church.

SERMON COPIES from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at www.mtm-umc.org.

"THE GREAT BIBLE EXPERIMENT"....

is an initiative by the Massachusetts Bible Society based on surveys conducted by the American Bible Society and the Barna Group (a highly respected survey organization). They determined that four cities in the Northeast are the least "Bible-minded" in America, including New Haven.

We are now taking registrations for the first of three units of material prepared for this Experiment. What is the Bible? is an introductory study to the Bible by the Rev. Anne Robertson. I will teach this unit, which appears excellent for the person who says or thinks "I really don't know much about the Bible and don't want to be embarrassed by attending a class with others who do." There is also material in the study that would be informative even for those who have taken Disciple Bible Study or some other in-depth study of the scriptures. This study will follow our typical **Tuesday at 7 p.m./Wednesday at 10 a.m. format** (students typically chose one or the other). **The six session study will run Sept. 20-21 and 27-28 and resume Oct. 11-12 through Nov. 1-2.** Please register through the church office ([203.874-1982](tel:203.874-1982) or mtmumc@sbcglobal.net).

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Brian

A GIFT FOR BRUCE RUMFORD

Bruce Rumford, our church sexton for the last six years, retired on August 27. We will have a special recognition for Bruce after worship on **Sunday, October 2nd**.

A part of that recognition will be to present Bruce and his wife Janet with a "purse." If you wish to contribute, you may do so by cash or check, given to any member of our Staff-Parish Relations Committee. Checks should be made payable to "Mary Taylor Memorial UMC" with the memo "Bruce farewell gift."

The members of Staff-Parish are Dennis Darak, Eileen Doyle, Tina Gage, Richie Perregaux, Edie Reichard, Becky Virgalla, Tom Beyer and Wil Wright, along with *ex-officio* members Kelly O'Hara and Leigh Bak, Lay Leaders. If you will participate, please make every effort to do so by **Wednesday, September 28** so that we may give Bruce and Janet a single gift.

Thank you for helping us to honor Bruce in this way.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon Wednesday for the following Sunday bulletin.

TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS, contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net. Flowers are \$20. A donation in lieu of flowers to support missions is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for either are payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460.

FOOD BASKET: Please place non-perishable food items in the basket located in the back of the church and monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: "Wet and dry cat food is needed for seniors with pets. Also wet and dry dog food for the canine facility. Towels and blankets **are** needed. Animal Control will not take peoples' released pets but will spay and neuter feral cats. Please leave your donations in the designated basket in the back of the Sanctuary. The Youth Fellowship brings these items to Animal Control each week. Bless you for caring for God's children with fur." **If you and your animals are in need, please help yourself to the available donations.**

CONTACT THE PASTORS directly or through the church office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) with pastoral care needs and hospitalizations: **Pastor Brian Bodt:** brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 111 or 203.895.3753. He is typically in office **10 am – 1 p.m.**, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink:** 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@gmail.com. **Pastor Dani Levine:** 203.927.9077 or Danielle.levine@mail.com.

"**FIX IT BOX**" is in Dodd Hall. See a need? Drop a completed form in the box.

WE HOST Alcoholics Anonymous AND Gamblers Anonymous WEEKLY. Please call the church office for the schedule or see it posted on the bulletin boards.

PLEASE NOTE: During a medical or other emergency the Head Usher or a designee will call #911. Please do not call on your cell phone as multiple calls may delay response.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR September 4th:

Total worship attendance all services: 181; September 4th: 172; Sept. 5th, Healing & Wholeness: 9; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for September 4th: \$5,090.50; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$482.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$25.00; Engaged in Small Groups: 38; Nominations: 5; Great Bible Experiment: 11; Bell Choir, 6; Adult Choir, 14; Office volunteers: 2; Total persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0.) *Small Groups – please contact the church office mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.

TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME resumes outside with the Sunday School hosting its annual Ice Cream Social with an ice cream truck! Fun! All invited! *"Life is uncertain: eat dessert first!"*

RESPONSES ARE DUE TODAY for youth intending to attend the Methodist Youth Fellowship Kick-Off Picnic next Sunday. All youth entering grades 6-12 are welcome. Please see the detailed article on page 15 of the September "Beacon." Let Dawn Bettencourt know you will attend at stevedawn@optonline.net or 203.876.1123. The party is at 144 Timber Trail, Milford.

"ENHANCING THE SOUND IN THE SANCTUARY FOR THOSE WITH HEARING LOSS" is the topic of an information session to be held on Tuesday, Sept. 20th, 7 p.m. at First UM Church, 188 Rocky Rest Road, Shelton. Eileen Potkay, LPN and Parish Health Coordinator (eileenmary68@aol.com; 203.809.0188) and Carol Galloway, MS, PT (carol9996@hotmail.com; 203.687.6225) will attend. Others are welcome to learn how we can make our worship a better experience for those with hearing loss. If you are interested in attending, **please let Eileen or Carol know by tomorrow, Sept. 12.** It would be ideal to have an attendee with a hearing aid equipped with a **telecoil (T-coil)**. If you have such a device or know someone with one, please let Eileen or Carol know. Transportation assistance is also available by speaking with them.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT MARY LOU KAMPERT is on vacation until Monday, Sept. 19th. **Deadlines remain unchanged, including this Wed., Sept. 15 for the October "Beacon."** Thanks to Priscilla James for covering the office while Mary Lou is off.

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN are developing a new e-mail list. If you would like to be on it, let **Sue O'Shea** (203.494.5339; sueoshea@optonline.net) know as soon as possible.

CLUB 80 LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS are due to the church office (203.874.1982, ext. 110) **this Friday, Sept. 16.** The Annual CLUB 80 Birthday Celebration Luncheon is for our members and friends who have reached this chronological milestone. It will be held **Tuesday, Sept. 20th, Noon** in Dodd Hall. Let the office know when you reserve if transportation is needed.

MAC FEST (Milford Arts Council) will be **this Saturday, September 17th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** **Lydia Smith** will be a part of the all-day music and arts festival on the historic Milford Green. She will lead a community drum circle from 12-1p.m. Drums provided or bring your own.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR ALL MEETINGS THIS WEEK.

NEXT SUNDAY, September 18th

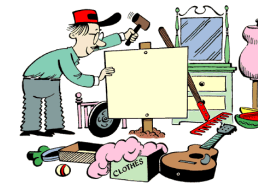
THE SERMON “*Dead Enough*” will be based on Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 and Luke 16:1-13. Informal hymn singing resumes at 9:45 a.m. We will dedicate our Sunday School teachers and Outreach Pastor during worship. Following worship, a reception of for Outreach Pastor Dani Levine will be held in Dodd Hall. Blood pressure screenings will be held in the sanctuary by Emily Bak, R.N. At 4 p.m. the Methodist Youth Fellowship has their kick-off picnic (see “Today” for details and reservations).

COMING SOON

T-SHIRTS! But not just any T-shirt! Walk, run or jump into your very own Mary Taylor Memorial Church customized t-shirt for the Beth-El “Trick or Trot” fund-raiser on Saturday, October 29. The event supports the shelter ministry of Beth-El Center. We are encouraging everyone who participates to wear one of our t-shirts, designed by our own Beverly Downing. T-shirts will need to be ordered in advance. *Your response to Paul Downing is needed no later than Sunday, September 25 (no exceptions).* Please see the enclosed order form.

RUNNING WATER FOR AFRICA, a 5k Race and Walk, will be held **Saturday, October 1, 9:00 a.m.** at the Walnut Beach Pavilion, 242 East Broadway, Milford. **Sue O’Shea** (203.494.5339; sueoshea@optonline.net) intends to run and invites others to join her. The proceeds of the event will be used to expand the water project in the village of Nganiko, Uganda and provide thousands of people with running water, including a school and medical clinic. Contact race director Marty Schaivone at msrunningproductions@yahoo.com for more information or to register for the race.

CONFIRMATION will begin *Tuesday, Sept. 20, 5:30 p.m.* in the Egan Room, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Unconfirmed youth entering the 8th grade or older are eligible to enroll. Classes meet each Tuesday at this time according to the schedule distributed at our June orientation. If you (or your child) were not one of the five youth present at that meeting and wish to attend, please let me know.
Pastor Brian (brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 111)



TRASH AND TREASURES (T&T) IS HIBERNATING!

FREE: ALL CLOTHING, SHOES AND BOOTS
ALL BOOKS PRESENTLY DISPLAYED

PLEASE: do not take any cartons. We need every small box for future needs and hauling away. Please do not donate any large cartons; none of us have gotten any younger or stronger. After cleaning up the basement and recycling some of our treasures, the T&T team is taking a long, much needed rest.

**DONATIONS FOR THE 2017 FAIR ON THE GREEN
WILL BE ACCEPTED STARTING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.**

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS

OUR LADY OF VICTORY-WEST HAVEN: A 10-week bereavement support group meets **Wednesdays, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Sept. 14 – Nov. 16, at Our Lady of Victory Rectory (600 Jones Hill Rd, West Haven, CT) from 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

The group forms at the opening session and follows the "New Day" process. Many have found this to be a helpful way to move from grief to healing. Manuals: \$10. For further information or to register, please call Sr. Bea at (203) 934-6357. Please register by September 7, 2016. All are welcome.

ST. MARY’S CHURCH-MILFORD: St. Mary’s Bereavement Support Group is offering a “New Day” 10 week program on **Thursday, September 29th from 1 – 3 p.m. in their church hall, 70 Gulf Street, Milford.** Anyone coping with the loss of a loved one whether recent of years ago is welcome. For more information or to register call Margaret at 203-874-2376.